

## **RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the City of Charleston recognizes the scientific evidence that global warming is strengthening; and,

WHEREAS, human activity, such as the burning of fossil fuels, has increased the levels of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) in our atmosphere from 280 parts per million (pre-industrialization) to the current level of 380 PPM; and,

WHEREAS, the scientific data shows the rise in CO<sub>2</sub> is directly related to higher global average temperatures, melting ice caps, glaciers and permafrost and rising sea levels, as well as the increase of extreme weather events such as hurricanes; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Charleston has created a bilateral effort in the form of the Staff Green Team and the Charleston Green Committee. The Staff Green Team is comprised of interested City employees from all City departments, and the Green Committee consists of 22 business and academic, nonprofit and government leaders from the local community; and,

WHEREAS, City Council, in April of 2007, charged the Green Committee with

- providing leadership and practical solutions to ensure a prosperous community that will sustain healthy lives for our citizens and a healthy earth;
- working to inspire individuals and organizations, both within and outside City government, to take actions that help make Charleston a model of healthy and ecologically sustainable living; and
- working with City government, business groups, nonprofit organizations and other partners to protect and enhance Charleston's distinctive environmental quality and livability; and,

WHEREAS, the Green Committee is working to create a Climate Protection and Sustainability Plan for Charleston over the next year; and,

WHEREAS, the Green Committee and Staff Green Team recommends that the City of Charleston continue to empower staff and citizens to lessen Charleston's contributions to global warming;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT I, Joseph P. Riley, Jr., Mayor, City of Charleston and Charleston City Council do hereby support the following policies and actions:

1. Require that all City staff recycle paper, plastic (plastics #1 and #2), aluminum and tin via Charleston County Curb Side Pick-up or the City Parks Department;
2. Require that all City staff recycle printer cartridges;
3. Require that all City staff use recycled copier paper for routine use;
4. Request that the Department of Public Service study the ability to pick up recyclable materials such as aluminum, tin, plastics, cardboard, and newspaper from the downtown business merchants as a pilot program that may be used to design an effective City-wide program including mandatory recycling where the program is offered;
5. Create a partnership with local stores to develop a plan to responsibly decrease the amount of plastic bag waste;
6. Identify and clearly advertise the CARTA route on which all City events are located;

7. Promote the City's policy of providing CARTA passes to employees who choose a CARTA pass in lieu of a parking garage pass to new and current employees;
8. In partnership with individual businesses and institutions and groups such as the Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce initiate a "lights out in buildings at night" campaign;
9. Ensure that all City owned construction, beginning with those buildings whose planning begins in 2009, meets LEED certification;
10. Work with City Council to develop and pass a resolution supporting the Federal Energy Block Grant Program;
11. Enforce the City's current idling ordinance, which prohibits idling for more than 5 minutes; and
12. Create an eco hospitality program that welcomes visitors to help Charleston be a sustainable city by helping with some small acts such as indicating when new towels are needed or turning lights out when leaving a hotel room.

Done this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2008.

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Joseph P. Riley, Jr., Mayor  
City of Charleston

ATTEST:

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Vanessa Turner-Maybank  
Clerk of Council